United Nations HRI/CORE/BEL/2012/Add.1

International Human Rights Instruments

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Core document forming part of the reports of States parties

Belgium

Addendum

Updated information transmitted by Belgium

[11 July 2013]

1. Under the Harmonized guidelines on reporting to the international human rights treaty bodies (HRI/MC/2006/3), States are invited to keep their common core documents current and to update the common core document whenever they submit a treaty-specific document. Updates may be submitted in the form of an addendum to the existing common core document or a new revised version, depending on the extent of the changes which need to be incorporated.

2. The information that follows is transmitted by Belgium as an update to its common core document (HRI/CORE/BEL/2012), submitted on 2 October 2012:

(a) Paragraph 23, final sentence, *for* June 2012 *read* May 2013.

(b) Paragraph 30, *for* regional or community councillor *read* member of a regional or community parliament.

(c) Paragraph 32, second bullet, replace the existing text with:

- 21 senators appointed from within the parliaments, with 10 being appointed by the Flemish parliament, 10 by the French parliament and 1 by the German-speaking parliament;

(d) Paragraphs 33 and 53, *for* councils *read* parliaments.

(e) Paragraph 49, replace the existing text with:

49. The Flemish parliament has 124 members, of whom 118 are directly elected in the Flemish Region and 6 are members elected directly by voters in the Brussels-Capital Region who do not vote for a list of candidates from the French-language group at the elections to the parliament of the Brussels-Capital Region.

(f) Paragraphs 52 and 68, *for* council *read* parliament.

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(g) Paragraph 136, replace the existing text with:

136. A person can obtain the status of injured party by filing a statement with the secretariat of the prosecutor's office or with the police, either in person or through a lawyer. The injured party has the right to be informed if proceedings are discontinued, and why, and to be informed if an investigation is opened and a date set for a hearing before an investigating judge or trial court. The injured party may also submit any documents they feel would be useful for the case file. They also have the right to seek authorization to consult the file and obtain a copy. If the case is at the preliminary investigation stage, the application can be made to the Crown Prosecutor. If the case is at the investigation stage, it may be addressed to the investigating judge. At the end of the investigation stage, when the case is before the investigating court, the injured party is notified that the file is at their disposal with the clerk of the court (for consultation or copying).